



# Cougar Column

John A. Crookshank Elementary

Bethany Mitidieri, Principal  
 Gwen Kling, Assistant Principal  
 Christi Thomas, Assistant Principal

**ONE Team!**  
**ONE Goal!**  
**Success for ALL!**

Week of October 11, 2021

The Cougar Column is delivered via School Messenger

Monday	10/11	Related Arts Week C and B (PK, 2)
Tuesday	10/12	
Wednesday	10/13	Early Release - Dismissal 1:45
Thursday	10/14	
Friday	10/15	- Cougars with Character Assembly - Wear a necktie for International Necktie Day.
Monday	10/18	No school - Teacher Planning Day Related Arts Week D and C (PK, 2)
Tuesday	10/19	Fall Picture Day
Wednesday	10/20	Unity Day - Wear Orange Early Release - Dismissal 1:45
Thursday	10/21	
Friday	10/22	-Quarter 1 PAWS Celebration -Wear colorful clothes

**YEARBOOKS**  
**\$12** *Because this year only happens once!*

**Early Bird Special**

Preorder Your Yearbook Now!  
 Go to: [BuyTheYearbook.com](http://BuyTheYearbook.com)

Enter Crookshank  
 School ID # 702723  
 Order Today!  
 Limited Yearbooks  
 Available at this Price!

**Upcoming:**

Oct 25 - 29 - Red Ribbon Week

Oct. 28 - SAC Meeting 4:00  
 PTO Boo Thru 5-7 (see info below)

Oct. 29 - Character Parade (see info below)

**Cougars with Character**

Friday October 15<sup>th</sup> is our first Cougars with Character Assembly. Students are selected for the following awards. Due to Covid restrictions parents cannot attend this assembly but will be invited next quarter.

**Academic Excellence Award**  
 This award is given for academic excellence in a subject area.

**Growth Mindset Award**  
 This award is for students who have shown growth in an academic or a social/emotional goal displaying a growth mindset.

**Community Service Award**  
 This award is for students who demonstrate a service mindset and leadership in this area either in or out of school.

**Character Counts**  
 August - All Pillars  
 September - Fairness

**UNITY Day**  
 Let's stand together against bullying!  
 On October 20, wear **ORANGE** to show that we are united for Kindness, Acceptance, and Inclusion.



**Parent/Teacher Conferences**



During the month of October, Teachers will be reaching out to parents/guardians to discuss student progress.






**PAWS Celebration**

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter PAWS Celebration will be Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students who have earned their PAWS stamps for the quarter will attend a DANCE PARTY! Way to go Cougars!  
 If you didn't make it to the celebration this quarter, there will be another party next quarter.

**Fall Pictures**  
 Fall picture day is Tuesday October 19<sup>th</sup>



## Red Ribbon Week

Monday, October 25	Tuesday, October 26	Wednesday, October 27	Thursday, October 28	Friday, October 29
<b>Wear Something Red</b> 	<b>Wear Exercise Gear</b> 	<b>Wear Your Favorite Team Gear</b> 	<b>Wear a Hat to School</b> 	<b>Dress Like a Storybook Character</b> 
<p>Bullying Awareness Challenge: Make friends with someone at school who you don't know. You probably wish someone had done that for you.</p>	<p>Bullying Awareness Challenge: Make kindness go viral with an act of kindness and challenge friends and classmates to pay it forward with their acts of kindness.</p>	<p>Bullying Awareness Challenge: Don't let anyone at school eat alone in the cafeteria or play alone at recess.</p>	<p>Bullying Awareness Challenge: When you see someone being bullied, be brave and STAND UP for them.</p>	<p>Bullying Awareness Challenge: Create positive messages on post-its and hand them out to classmates.</p>

## Storybook Character Parade

This year Crookshank Elementary is excited to again host its annual Storybook Character Parade on Friday, October 29, 2021 starting at 8:45 around the bus loop. For this event, students can dress up as their favorite story book character as they parade around the bus loop. Parents are invited and encouraged to watch, take pictures and cheer as the students walk by. Students may choose any character from a book they enjoy that follows the guidelines below.

**Acceptable Examples**  
 Fancy Nancy  
 Cinderella, Snow White, etc.  
 Greg Heffley (the Wimpy Kid)  
 Ramona  
 Baby Mouse  
 Bone  
 Olivia

**Unacceptable Examples**  
 Characters from Goosebumps  
 Vampires  
 Grim Reaper  
 Characters with guns or weapons  
 Ghosts  
 Horror movie characters

You do NOT have to buy anything new for this event. Instead, be creative - make paper ears, a hat, or wear the clothes the character would wear. Children should either carry the book or make a large name tag stating the title of the book they are representing. Children should come to school dressed as the storybook character, and should be able to go to the bathroom independently while in character. Students who do not wish to wear a costume may make signs or props to carry during the parade representing a favorite book character.

## PTO Boo-Thru

We are so excited about our First Ever Boo Thru for Crookshank Families! On Thursday, October 28th, from 5:30-7:30, put on your costume, pull up in your car, and let us fill your bag with treats along our drive through trick or treat trail! See your teachers and other special guests dressed up in costumes! All participants must come in a vehicle; for safety's sake, no walk ups will be permitted. We can't wait to see you there! We are asking for bags of individually wrapped candy, turned in to the CES office by October 25th, so that we can hand out many, many treats that night! Please email [jenfarrow813@gmail.com](mailto:jenfarrow813@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer for this event.

Admission is \$5 per car, with a photo booth for an additional \$5. (\$7 admission if you pay that evening)

Everyone must register in advance for an arrival time slot

at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084EA9AD29A0FD0-cesboo>

**The deadline to register for the Boo-Thru is Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

You can pay for both your Boo Thru admission and Boo Thru photo online or use the QR code : <https://crookshank-pt0.cheddarup.com>



**“COME DRIVE THE BUS WITH US”**

**You want to be a school bus operator and are unsure if you can do it? Come operate our newest school buses on our test track with a certified trainer/examiner!**

**Who:** Open to the Public - Anyone with a valid drivers' license.

**When:** Saturday, October 23, 2021  
8:00am to Noon

**Where:** Public Safety Campus Test Track  
3640 Gaines Road  
St. Augustine, FL 32084




- Music
- Free Pumpkins (until they run out)
- Refreshments
- Pumpkin Decorating (For the Children)
- Driving Simulator



# ANCIENT CITY KIDS DAY

**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF FREE FAMILY FUN!**



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23  
11AM to 3PM, FRANCIS FIELD**

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT    ARTS & CRAFTS  
GAMES    GIVE-AWAYS    FUN ACTIVITIES**



**FREE T-SHIRT OR GOODY BAG WHILE SUPPLIES LAST  
FOOD & DRINK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US TODAY!  
(904) 829-3295    WWW.EPICBH.ORG**

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LisaMack Productions, Little Smiles Children's Dentistry, Premier Martial Arts St. Augustine,  
Smiles by Glenos & Hadgis, SJC Parks & Recreation, The St. Augustine Swashbucklers,  
Timber Tiger Studios



# Help Is Here

## Monthly payments for families with kids

Raising kids can be expensive, and the Child Tax Credit is here to help. President Biden's American Rescue Plan increased the amount of the 2021 Child Tax Credit to support families with children.

The full benefit of the Child Tax Credit is now \$300 per month per child under age 6 and \$250 for each child age 6 to 17.

**Did you file taxes in the last 2 years? Then you don't have to do anything to get the money you're already owed!**

If you filed your 2020 taxes this year or filed your 2019 taxes last year, or used the IRS "Non-Filer Portal" to get a stimulus check last year, you don't need to do anything. The IRS will automatically send you a monthly payment by direct deposit or check starting on July 15, 2021.

**The Child Tax Credit is \$3,000 to \$3,600 per child with advanced monthly payments.**

In order to get money to families quickly, the IRS will pay half of the credit as monthly payments now and the other half when you file your taxes next year. In total, you'll receive a total of \$3,600 for each child under 6 and \$3,000 for each child between 6 and 17.

**Didn't file taxes in the last 2 years? There's 1 easy step to start getting your Child Tax Credit payments.**

Just fill out a simple form to begin receiving your monthly Child Tax Credit payments. You can access it by going to [childtaxcredit.gov](https://childtaxcredit.gov)

**All you'll need to apply are:**

- A reliable mailing address
- E-mail address
- Your children's Social Security Numbers
- Your Social Security Number (or ITIN)
- Your bank account information (if you want to receive your payment by direct deposit)

**Eligibility:** Most families, even those with little to no income, can receive the full amount. If you are a single parent making less than \$112,500 or a married couple making less than \$150,000—and have children under age 18 who will live with you for more than half of 2021—you are likely eligible for the full benefit. These benefits do not affect your eligibility for other federal benefits like SNAP.

Learn more and check out resources to help you fill out your form at [\*\*ChildTaxCredit.gov\*\*](https://ChildTaxCredit.gov)

RJ Murray Middle School invites you to our 2nd annual

# Thanksgiving Dinner

Open to all student families in SJCS

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2021**  
**PICK-UP STARTS AT 10 AM**

*Family Style meals will be available for curbside pick-up at RJ Murray Middle School*

**MUST RSVP BY NOVEMBER 5TH**  
**[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/RJMMSTHANKSGIVING2021](https://tinyurl.com/rjmmsthanksgiving2021)**

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT  
904-547-8476  
CARLY.GORDON@STJOHNS.K12.FL.US

Partnerships



**First Coast Technical College**  
*Your Future Comes First*





RJ Murray Middle School's 2nd Annual  
Thanksgiving Meal

# *Adopt a Family*

**SPONSOR A FAMILY THIS THANKSGIVING.  
FAMILY OF 4- \$50 OR FAMILY OF 6 \$100  
ANY DONATION IS ACCEPTED**

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Help provide meals to our students  
in St. Johns County School District  
this Thanksgiving.

*FREE meals will be provided to any  
school family in need across St. Johns  
County School District.*

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Contact us at RJ Murray Middle School 904-547-8472 or  
send checks made out to RJ Murray Middle School